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FORM 610 3006B

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IMMEDIATE
IN 1198973
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Intelligence Information Cable

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DIRECTORATE OF OPERATIONS

Classified by Designated Reporting Officer. Exempt from General Declassification Schedule of E.O. 11652 Exemption Category 5B (1), (2). Impossible to Determine Date of Automatic Declassification

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

REPORT CLASS SECRET-NNINTEL- 3.5(c)

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DIST 30 AUG 78

COUNTRY: BRAZIL/ARGENTINA

SUBJECT: DETENTION OF ARGENTINE SOCIALIST LEADER CAUSING SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS WITHIN BRAZIL

3.3(b)(1)

1. ON 22 AUGUST 1978 THE INTERNAL OPERATIONS DETACHMENT (DOI) OF THE SECOND ARMY ARRESTED TWENTY-TWO PERSONS WHO WERE ATTENDING OR ABOUT TO ATTEND A SOCIALIST UNITY MEETING IN SAO PAULO. THE PURPOSE OF THE GATHERING, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT 150 PERSONS, WAS TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEMS IN FORMING A LEGAL BRAZILIAN SOCIALIST PARTY. SOME OF THE PARTICIPATING MEMBERS BELONGED TO OUTLAWED BRAZILIAN POLITICAL GROUPS, SUCH AS THE "LIGA OPERARIA", A TROTSKYITE ORGANIZATION. AFTER MAKING THE ARRESTS, THE DOI OFFICIALS TURNED THOSE ARRESTED OVER TO THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ORDER (DOPS) OF THE SAO PAULO STATE POLICE. 3.3(b)(1)

THOSE AT THE GATHERING WERE, AT MOST, ONLY VIOLATING

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MINOR BRAZILIAN LAWS. [redacted] THE ARRESTS 3.3(b)(1)
WOULD NOT STAND UP IN A COURT OF LAW. AS OF 28 AUGUST, ABOUT HALF OF THOSE ARRESTED HAVE BEEN RELEASED.

2. ONE OF THOSE ARRESTED, HUGO MIGUEL B R E S S A N O, AN ARGENTINE SOCIALIST LEADER, HAS CREATED A SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM FOR THE BRAZILIAN GOVERNMENT. SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE (SNI) IN BRASILIA, INCLUDING GENERAL OCTAVIO AGUIAR DE M E D E I R O S, HEAD OF THE SNI, AND GENERAL N E W T O N ARAUJO DE OLIVEIRA E CRUZ, HEAD OF THE BRASILIA CENTRAL AGENCY, WANT TO EXPEL BRESSANO AND HAND HIM OVER TO THE ARGENTINE MILITARY AUTHORITIES. ON 29 AUGUST, GUY P R I M, DEPUTY DIRECTOR,
THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES, BASED IN BUENOS AIRES, VISITED SAO PAULO POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND DEMANDED THAT THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES EITHER RELEASE BRESSANO IN BRAZIL OR SEND HIM OUT OF THE COUNTRY TO EUROPE. HE TOLD DOPS OFFICIALS THAT BRESSANO WOULD BE KILLED IF TURNED OVER TO ARGENTINE AUTHORITIES.

3. DOPS OFFICIALS IN SAO PAULO ARE AWAITING ORDERS FROM BRASILIA ON HOW TO PROCEED IN THIS CASE. THEY ARE FEARFUL THAT ARGENTINE TERRORIST GROUPS MAY ATTEMPT A KIDNAPPING IN ARGENTINA OR BRAZIL WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS IN ORDER TO FORCE THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE BRESSANO.

3.3(b)(1) 4. ([redacted] COMMENT: SECOND ARMY OFFICIALS WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ARREST OF THE 22 SOCIALISTS, ARE THUNDERSTRUCK OVER

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THE WAY THE CASE HAS TURNED OUT. THEY HAD NO INTENTION OF CREATING SUCH A FUROR AND HAD NO IDEA THAT THE BRESSANO ARREST WOULD CAUSE SUCH PROBLEMS.)

5. C [redacted] COMMENT: [redacted] 3.3(b)(6)

[redacted] BRESSANO. [redacted]

IS CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ARGENTINE SOCIALIST PARTY. HE ALSO WORKS ON THE STAFF OF THE WEEKLY MAGAZINE "PALAVRA OBREIRA", WHICH IS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TROTSKYITE FOURTH INTERNATIONAL. IN 1962 HE OPERATED CLANDESTINELY IN PERU UNDER ALIAS "MANUEL MORENO", PARTICIPATING IN A BANK ROBBERY. LATER HE MOVED TO BOLIVIA WHERE HE WAS ARRESTED AND SUBSEQUENTLY SET FREE. IN 1963 HE SERVED AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PERUVIAN NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT IN BUENOS AIRES. AFTER 1963 HE BECAME ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS SOCIALIST/TROTSKYITE GROUPS IN ARGENTINA. HE HELPED FOUND THE ARGENTINE TEXTILE TRADE UNION, AND WHILE HE WAS SECRETARY OF A SOCIALIST YOUTH GROUP, HE HAD LINKS WITH THE POPULAR REVOLUTIONARY ARMY (ERP). HE ARRIVED IN SAO PAULO FROM CARACAS AT THE INVITATION OF THE BRAZILIAN "NATIONAL SOCIALIST CONVERGENCY" ORGANIZATION IN ORDER TO ATTEND THEIR MEETING. HE HAD PLANNED TO RETURN TO CARACAS ON 28 AUGUST.)

[redacted] 3.3(b)(1)

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